

Volume 47, Number 5

May 2007

DATES TO REMEMBER

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday May 3, 2007 - 7 PM
Red Cross Building - 101 N. Pat St.
VE Testing @ 6:00 - Door Prizes

HAMFEST SCHEDULE

AARA Rayne - May 25 & 26
West Central Louisiana ARC - Aug. 11

Each Wednesday

Lunch Bunch 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery
Check 146.820 - repeater for info

Each Monday, 7:00 p.m.

AARA Net 146.820 - 600

Each Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

ARES Net 145.370 - 600 PL 103.5
YL/XYL / Filly Net 146.820 - 600

1st & 3rd Friday, 1:00 p.m

HEAL Net 146.820 - 600

AARA OFFICERS 2007-2008

President - Stratos Imvriotis KE5I
leles@cox.net

Vice Pres - Charles Morrison KI5XP

Secretary - Randy Castille N5MLJ

Treasurer - Joy Breaux N5YCS

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The **LARC** is published monthly by the:
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each month at 7:00 p.m. at the
American Red Cross Building
101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

What a great start to our year! Without a doubt, everyone is contributing to make our club the best in Louisiana! We have 114 club members, with several more to come in the near future. Please, if you or someone you know has not yet renewed their membership, I encourage everyone to do so. If you are a member, I would also encourage you to join the ARRL. In order for our club to maintain its ARRL Affiliation, we must have 51% of our membership ARRL members.

The **BIG** event of the year for our club will be our **HAMFEST** that it will take place at the **Rayne Civic Center on May 25th & 26th** Rick **N5RLM** is the Chairperson for this event. Please let's offer our full support to Rick for a successful **HAMFEST**.

The next event for our club after the **HAMFEST** will be our participation in the 2007 Field Day. Charlie, **KI5XP**, is the Chairperson of this event. I am sure that he will welcome any offers for help. Don't forget, this project will be fun! **We HOPE to WIN this event this year!** There will be an additional station that can be operated by anyone during the entire event which will be our FUN STATION. **Mark your calendar for June 23-24th.**

I would like to thank everyone on behalf of the Board of Directors, for the confidence in us and support which you have all demonstrated on several issues that were brought up at the last meeting. We will discuss a proposed new event at the next meeting and look forward to getting your ideas and input on this.

Until next time, 73's and happy Ham – ing!

Your PREZ,
Stratos, KE5I

STATEWIDE HURRICANE DRILL

The LA Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness is planning a Statewide Hurricane Drill on Wednesday May 9th and Thursday May 10th. Ed Roy WA5TNK Lafayette Parish EC would like to get a couple of groups of volunteers to take part in this drill. We will be working from the EOC and other areas around the the Acadiana area using HF frequencies and VHF repeaters.

If you would like to help out in this drill, please contact Ed WA5TNK, Herman KN5GRK or John KA5BSE. We will discuss this at the Thursday General meeting.



47th ACADIANA HAMFEST 2007

ARRL Delta Division Convention

Sponsored by: Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

May 25 & 26, 2007

Friday & Saturday Only!

Rayne Civic Center, Rayne Louisiana

Talk-in: K5ARH Repeater 146.820 (no PL tone)



DIRECTIONS: Take I-10 Exit 87 South (toward downtown Rayne). Turn right at first red light (Oak Street), go to second street and turn right into Gossen Memorial Drive. Follow to Rayne Civic Center.

WEBSITE: <http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/>

Schedule

FRIDAY, May 25th

- 1300 Dealer & Flea Market Setup
- 1800 Crawfish Served
- 1900 Fais-Do-Do - Roland K5EUO, Carle KD5TCJ and others will provide French music. Jam session - Bring your instruments - Dancing for everyone.



SATURDAY, May 26 (Forums)

- | | | |
|-----------|------------------|---|
| 0900-1000 | SkyWarn Training | Ed Roy WA5TNK - Lafayette Parish Emergency Coordinator |
| 1000-1100 | AMSAT | Keith Pugh W5IU - AMSAT Vice President of Operations |
| | | Roger Ley WA9PZL - AMSAT Louisiana Coordinator |
| 1100-1200 | Echolink | Stratos Imvriotis KE5I - AARA President |
| 1200-1400 | ARRL | Henry Leggette WD4Q - ARRL Delta Division Director |
| | | Karl Bullock WA5TMC - ARRL Delta Division Vice Director |
| | | Mickey Cox K5MC - ARRL Louisiana Section Manager |
| 1400-1500 | SkyWarn Training | Ed Roy WA5TNK - Lafayette Parish Emergency Coordinator |

SATURDAY, May 26

- 0700 Dealer & Flea Market Setup
- 0800 Hamfest doors open
- 0830 DXCC Card checking
- 0900 Bingo
- 0900 ARRL VE Testing - Bring copies of ID & CSCE
- 1100 Fox Hunt
- 1500 Grand prize drawings
- 1530 Hamfest closes

HAMFEST GRAND PRIZES

- Grand Prize - ICOM 7000**
HF Mobile (Need not to be present)
- Second Prize - ICOM 2200H**
2 Meter Mobile (Must be present)
- Third Prize - ICOM V8 Sport**
2 Meter HT (Must be present)

FOOD SERVICES

This year, something new, we are having the Crawfish Boil catered by:

Crawfish Hut

**702 West Branch (Hwy 90 E)
Rayne, LA**

Of course the food court will be handled by the **Rayne High School Band Scholarship Fund Group**. They will have coffee, biscuits, donuts, sweet rolls, sandwiches, gumbo and soft drinks.

REMINDER:

Go to the hamfest website, download a pre-registration form for Crawfish Boil, RV Space, Swap table or Dealer Tables, and updated schedules. **All those wanting Crawfish orders must have their pre-registrations in 2 weeks before the Hamfest.**

If you pre-register, you will receive one free raffle ticket (Before May 24) and pay \$4.00 per person, if you wait until the day of the Hamfest, you will pay \$5.00 per person.

RV space available with full hook-ups on site.

On Sunday April 1st, 2007 - Joey Fierro W5TFW, was severely injured in the process of removing a tower. I feel the following article may prevent someone else from possible injury in the future. This article is from Gary Stratton K5GLS, Louisiana Section EC for ARRL and reprinted from the April 2007 AADXA Newsletter.

Words of Warning on Towers

I have received e-mails concerning a recent tower accident in the Baton Rouge area and a raffle for the benefit of the Ham who was injured. Many such accidents are never communicated but I know of two in recent history.

Most of the towers used by Hams are ROHN (or equivalent) tubular steel tower systems. They are subject to internal corrosion within the tubular legs of the tower sections, especially if the bottom section is not installed properly to allow for drainage of accumulated water from condensation.

If a new tower is installed, read the instructions from the manufacturer carefully about proper installation of the base section (pay attention to drainage methods). Be extremely careful when using used tower sections! Carefully inspect them for signs of corrosion and mechanical damage. Sight down the tubular legs of each section with a light source from the opposite end to inspect for internal corrosion. Minor external corrosion usually indicates that there is probably internal corrosion. NEVER INSTALL A SECTION WITH DENTS IN THE LEGS OR BENT CROSS BRACES. NEVER WELD A CROSS BRACE BACK IN PLACE IF THE WELD HAS BEEN BROKEN. Welding destroys the zinc coatings and sets up an internal corrosion point. The braces are welded at the factory before galvanizing.

Test alignment fit of the tower sections on heground, not in the air. If unusual movement of a section is required to insert one section into another in the air it produces great stress on the standing sections below the climber.

Buy enough rope to provide temporary guys at the top of EVERY section to be lifted, installed and later climbed. An un-guyed SINGLE SECTION is not engineered to support the weight of a climber. The price of temporary guys and the trouble to use them is way less than the value of a life!

TAKING AN OLD TOWER DOWN: I have been around commercial tower climbers most of my life. All of them carry a hammer or rubber mallet to the base of a tubular tower and strike each leg sharply before climbing the tower. Strike the leg and listen...if you hear stuff falling down inside the legs with a tinkling metallic sound...it is not safe to climb!

When taking a tower down, most tower failures occur when loosening the guys improperly. **INSTALL THE TEMPORARY ROPE GUYS, THEN LOOSEN THE MAIN GUYS AT THE ANCHOR POINT ON THE GROUND WITH THE TURNBUCKLES** simultaneously if possible. Completely disconnect all single level guys from the anchor and drape them down the tower legs. **NEVER RELEASE A GUY FROM ITS CONNECTION TO THE TOWER** unless the guys are draped down the legs. **THIS IS WHAT USUALLY CAUSE TOWER FAILURE FROM THE SUDDEN UNBALANCED LOAD ON THE TOWER.**

(continued on page 4 column 1)

April VE Testing Results

At the April AARA General Meeting, the following persons tested and the results are:

Mark Brockmann passed his Technician test and received the callsign KE5NTW and became a new club member.

James Palmer III KE5HGZ upgraded to Extra, Raymond Prejean KD5UHU upgraded to General, Jonathon Wagner KE5FSG upgraded to General, Nicolas Romero KE5MWX upgraded to General, and Lewis Gaddis KE5GDM upgraded to General.

Danny K5ARH

Correction:

In the April issue of the LARC page 5, I made an error. I had Kermit Cormier as upgraded to General, however it should have read as upgraded to Extra and his new callsign is now AE5AJ.

Herman KN5GRK - LARC Editor

TRADING POST

For Sale:

Force 12 C3E 3 band plus WARC using tuner antenna. 18 ft. boom, 20-15-10 + 17/12m. Antenna has two drivers for 10m to cover the entire 10m band. Used only 2 years, good condition with Force 1'2 balun. Can add the Force 12 New Delta 240 for 40 thru 10 meters. Sells new for \$849.00 asking \$400.00. Email: na5q@w5ddl.org. Roland NA5Q.

If you have anything to list in the **LARC**, please contact Herman KN5GRK
kn5grk@bellsouth.net

Words of Warning on Towers

(continued from page 3 column 1)

Finally...Climbing Belts: I have seen all manner of "climbing belts" used by Hams. Anywhere from sections of rope tied around a climber's waist to elaborate OSHA approved full body harnesses. All professional climbers use the OSHA harness. This is the best and most expensive apparatus, but what worth do you place on your life? Most Hams use the "lineman's belt" design... OK, but not as good when you come to that "sudden stop" at the end of the lanyard. The better OSHA harnesses allow you to sit back in them to take a rest.

No matter what you use, inspect it each time you climb for deterioration of the sewn connections and the lanyards. Jerk hard on all connections. **BUY A NEW ONE IF ANY WEAR OR DETERIORATION IS APPARENT.** Use TWO lanyards. As you climb or come down, alternately move the lanyards up or down and **always be connected to the tower** in the event of a slip or misstep. Never use any belt or harness more than 5 years from when you bought it new. An OSHA approved belt or harness will have an inspection and manufacture tag on it. Remember... any fall over 5 feet usually has the same consequence.

Before starting a tower project, plan the total project on the ground with all helpers present for all steps to be involved. All steps should be guided **BY THE CLIMBER** and nothing should be done unless he has directed it. If anyone has any safety concerns **SHUT THE JOB DOWN UNTIL THEY ARE RESOLVED.** All ground crew should wear hard hats and safety glasses. If anyone is working above a climber, he should as well. If a climber drops anything, he should yell "HEADACHE!" This is a universally used warning.

REMEMBER: The more one becomes accustomed to climbing, the more chances he will take. I've seen most seasoned climber forget to "belt off". If he is lucky he didn't turn loose of the tower and it scares the dickens out of him each time. Shortcuts to save time will kill you.

ROHN BX TOWERS (self supporting). Dangerous... rust in miles per hour... discontinued by ROHN long ago because of the lawsuits. Be careful if you have one, it will eventually fall.

GROUNDING: Ground each leg to a separate ground rod with a minimum of #6 solid copper. Ground each guy anchor point similarly. The majority of a lightning strike is carried by the guy wires. Avoid using your house, pump house or garage as an anchor point. They are not as strong as you think they are and burn readily when lightning strikes!

If you use steel anchor points in contact with the soil, install a sacrificial zinc anode (commercially available) to cathodically protect it. If you don't, the tower will eventually fall.

Scott, Louisiana Centennial Special Event

On April 16th, John Martin KA5BSE, StratosImvriotis KE5I and Herman Campbell KN5GRK met with the Mayor of Scott, LA - Mrs. Hazel D. Meyers to discuss the possibility of the AARA doing a "Special Event Station" in celebration of the 100th Anniversary of their city.

(continued on next column)



5/06	JOHN	W4JHC
5/12	KAREN	KE5LCE
5/24	STEPHANIE	K5STP
5/26	CHARLIE	K15XP
5/26	JOSHUA	KE5GDZ
5/26	KATHY	KD5TJZ
5/28	EDWARD	KE5LBG
5/30	ALEX	KE5KUW
6/05	MARILYN	KE5LYC



Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership application, this is why some may not be listed.

Scott Special Event (continued)

Mayor Meyers was very receptive of our presentation of what we could offer in behalf of the club. We had some certificates and QSL cards on hand to give her an idea of how special event stations promote historical events, famous people and landmarks. The celebration will be sometime in the month of August. We have also secured the use of the following logo for a certificate.



ANTENNA PARTY

On Sunday April 15th, a “antenna party” took place around 10:00 AM at the QTH of Silent Key Teral LeJeune WA5BHR in Eunice, LA.

There were 2 towers to be removed, dismantled and carted away, one was a very light aluminum 35 foot with nothing on top, the other a Rohn 25 around 48 foot with a tri-



bander Cushcraft 3 element beam on top and two wire antennas.

The crew finished by 12 noon. The work went as smooth as silk without any hitches or accidents. Mary LeJeune was very surprised that so many showed up to help out and would like to thank them for taking time out to help remove the towers.



The Crew: John KA5BSE (leader), Danny KD5JSM, Glenn KD5NVC, Roland NA5Q, Carl KDd5TCJ, Ken KD5YWB, Aleber KF5WT, Alan KD5OZJ, Dick WA6MDI, and Arnold KE5JXC. Teral's Son and Grandson were also present.

A quote from John, “*all this was done in 2 hours time, how about them apples*”!

Photos by: Roland NA5Q

CLUB PICNIC CANCELLED

The AARA had scheduled a club picnic in the park in Duson, LA for April 28th at 9:00 AM, to coincide with the Amateur Radio Balloon Launch over North East Texas. We had planned to try to track the balloon during our picnic. However, plans for the picnic were made on short notice and with the big Festival International going on in Lafayette, most of our members seemed to be busy with other activities, so the picnic was cancelled until further notice.

This worked out well as the Balloon Launch was also cancelled due to extreme upper atmosphere winds. The launch is re-scheduled for May 5th to coincide with Cinco de Mayo Celebration at 9:00 AM which according to the weather forecasters, will be a great day for both festivals.

Remember When?

This will take some of you back to the “old days” when most of you listened to the radio, watched early television or sat at the Saturday Matinee and watched western hero “Hopalong Cassidy”. Well now there is a special event station honoring the birthplace of William Boyd, the star of those movies. You might want to try to get a QSL card from this event.

May 5, 1400Z-2200Z, Cambridge, OH. Cambridge Amateur Radio Association, W8VP. Birthplace of William Boyd "Hopalong Cassidy" American Hero. 14.260 7.235. QSL. Cambridge ARA, PO Box 1804, Cambridge, OH 43725. w8vp.org

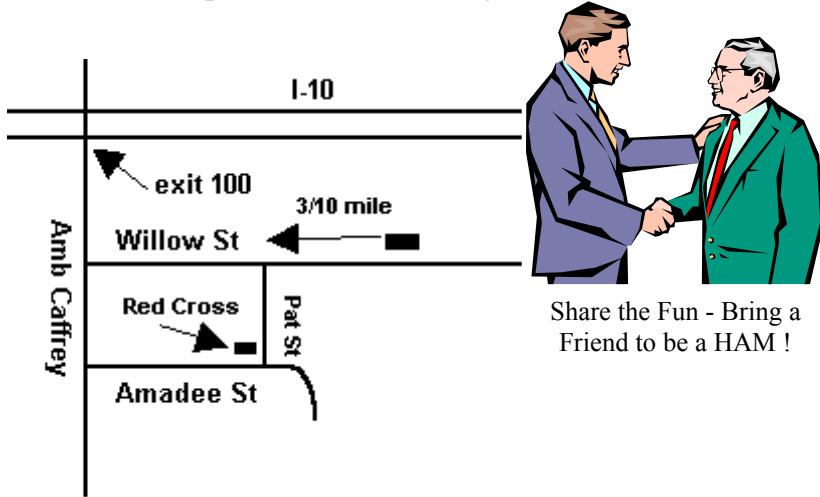
May Special Events & Contests

- May 1 - 15** **W7A** - US International Police Association Radio Club. National Law Enforcement Week -- Honoring Fallen Officers.
- May 5 & 6** **W4XD - 1400Z-0200Z**, Sherando Lake, VA. 400th anniversary of Jamestown, VA.
- May 12 - 13** **W4J - 1330Z-2030Z**, Jamestown/Williamsburg, VA. 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown, Virginia (1607).
- May 24 - 28** **W9IMS - 1500Z-0300Z**, Indianapolis, IN. 91st running of the Indianapolis 500.
- May 26** **W8XRN - 1300Z-2100Z**, Wright Patterson AFB, OH. Celebrate ARMAD & USAF 60th anniversary.
- May 28** **W5T - 1200Z-2200Z**, Fayetteville, AR. Memorial Day Troop Train.
- May 28** **W5KID - 1400Z-2130Z**, Baton Rouge, LA. USS Kidd Amateur Radio Club. Memorial Day.

Check QST or ARRL Website for details and QSL information.

Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.
P. O. Box 51174
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



AARA GENERAL MEETING - May 3, 2007
Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA
7:00 PM - VE TESTING @ 6:00 PM - DOOR PRIZES
REFRESHMENTS
Pay your dues if not so done already!

COMPLEMENTARY
ISSUE

Apple Cobbler

(from April month of Teche Federal Bank Calendar)

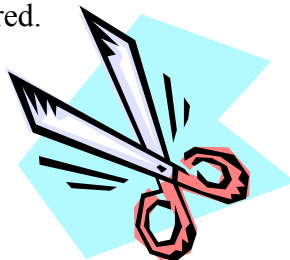
- | | |
|--|---|
| 7 to 8 large tart cooking apples (9 cups),
peeled, cored, sliced 1/4 inch | 2 eggs |
| 3/4 cup sugar | 2 teaspoons baking powder |
| 3/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon | 3/4 teaspoon salt |
| 2 cups all-purpose flour | 1/2 cup butter, melted ice cream, if
desired |
| 2 cups sugar | |

Heat oven to 350°. Place sliced apples in ungreased 13x9 inch baking pan. Stir together 3/4 cup sugar and 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon in small bowl. Sprinkle over apples.

Combine remaining cinnamon, flour, sugar, eggs, baking powder and salt in large mixer bowl. Beat at medium speed, scraping bowl often, until mixture is crumbly (2 to 3 minutes). Sprinkle over apples. Pour melted butter over topping. Bake for 40 to 50 minutes or until lightly browned and apples are tender. Serve warm with ice cream, if desired.

Submit your favorite recipe to:

Herman KN5GRK
kn5grk@bellsouth.net



FCC LICENSE INFO SERVICE

The FCC toll-free (WATS) number for Amateur Radio license inquiries - including inquiries about vanity and new call signs. The number, 888-225-5322, will connect callers to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at 202-414-1250 or ulscomm@fcc.gov.

Web site:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New callsign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is: Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245